

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (*currently amended*) An adjustable pinhole for a laser scanning microscope, the adjustable pinhole comprising:

first and second silicon apertures movable relative to each other, each of said silicon apertures having a rectangular ~~mirror-inverted~~ opening having flanks etched at an acute angle, the rectangular openings being arranged with the flanks thereof mirror-inverted relative to a mirror plane between the first and second apertures, and the relative movement of the apertures defining a pinhole of varying size.

2. (*currently amended*) The adjustable pinhole according to claim 1, ~~whereby~~ wherein the first and second silicon apertures are displaceable with respect to one another in a first direction.

3. (*currently amended*) The adjustable pinhole according to claim 2, ~~whereby~~ wherein at least one of said silicon apertures is displaceable in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction for adjustment to obtain an exact square form for the configuration of the pinhole.

4. (*currently amended*) The adjustable pinhole according to claim 3, ~~whereby the apertures are fastened on~~ further comprising flexible solid joints, which are arranged in a rigid manner in the first direction and are flexible in the second direction, wherein the apertures are fastened on the flexible solid joints.

5. *(currently amended)* A method for adjustment of a pinhole in a laser scanning microscope having a photo-receiver, the method comprising the steps of:

forming a square-shaped pinhole ~~from~~ comprising first and second silicon apertures, each one ~~with a rectangular mirror-inverted opening~~ having a rectangular opening having flanks etched at an acute angle, the openings being arranged with the flanks thereof mirror-inverted relative to a mirror plane between the first and second apertures;

passing light through the pinhole to the photo-receiver;

acquiring a signal of the photo-receiver; and

moving ~~the apertures to maximize the light received by the photo-receiver~~ at least one aperture in dependence of the signal until the signal is maximal.